THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE-PATIL): (a) The reference to deflation in the RBI Report on Currency and Finance is with respect to price movements in Japan.

(b) Does not arise.

Restoration of Import Duty on Soda Ash

569. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of representations have been received from Gujarat for restoration of import duty on soda ash to its original level in the interest of people of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to restore the duty on soda ash to its original level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has received representations on behalf of the domestic soda ash manufacturers for restoration or increase of duty on soda ash.

(c) The Government has decided to retain the duty at the rate of 20 per cent on soda ash taking into account factors such as the domestic demand-supply position, comparative prices of indigenous and imported soda ash and status and composition of the domestic manufacturing and user industries.

Annual Target for DRI

570. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government and RBI have set annual target for all the Public Sector Banks in respect of Differential Rates of Interest (DRI) for the Weaker Sections of Society;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that none of the banks has achieved their target for the last many years;

(d) if so, the DRI performance of banks during the last three years, year-wise, bank-wise and Statewise; and

(e) the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE-PATIL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. All Scheduled Commercial Banks are required to lend 1% of their aggregate advances as at the end of the previous year at concessional rate of 4% p.a. under DRI scheme. State-wise targets are not fixed. Banks have to ensure that at least 40% of their advances under DRI scheme flow to SC/STs. The maximum assistance per beneficiary has been fixed at Rs. 6,500/- for productive purposes. Members of SC/STs can also avail housing loan upto Rs. 5,000/- per beneficiary over and above the loan of Rs. 6,500/-. Banks are not able to achieve the target as the DRI scheme is an interest subsidy scheme which was introduced in 1972, whereas subsequently several Government sponsored capital subsidy schemes such as Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, Swarnajayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana, Scheme of Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers have been introduced which offer higher quantum of loan amounts and larger capital subsidies and are more attractive for borrowers. Borrowers have shown a preference for these schemes. The bank-wise details of advances outstanding and percentage of DRI advances to total advances for the last three years are indicated in the statement (*See* below).

(e) With a view to improve the lending under DRI scheme, Reserve Bank of India has advised All Scheduled Commercial Banks to implement the DRI scheme with greater vigour and to organize meetings exclusively for SC/STs beneficiaries to understand their credit needs.

Public Sector Banks Advances under DRI Scheme for the Year March, 1999, 2000 and 2001

(Amt. in Crores)
(A/c in Lakhs)

Name of the Bank	1999			2000			2001		
	No. of A/c	Balance O/s	% of DRI to total Advances	No. of A/c	Balance O/s	% of DRI to total Advances	No. of A/c	Balance O/s	% of DRI to total Advances
State Bank of India	3.65	60.65	0.10	1.26	34.35	0.05	1.19	34.87	0.04
State Bank of B & J	0.11	8.19	0.21	0.93	7.16	0.18	0.82	6.66	0.15
State Bank of Hyderabad	0.90	23.42	0.48	0.39	22.00	0.44	0.30	13.46	0.23
State Bank of Indore	0.15	7.86	0.41	0.15	6.75	0.32	0.13	5.57	0.23

Name of the Bank	1999			2000			2001		
	No. of A/c	Balance O/s	% of DRI to total Advances	No. of A/c	Balance O/s	% of DRI to total Advances	No. of A/c	Balance O/s	% of DRI to total Advances
State Bank of Mysore	0.21	11.18	0.44	0.18	4.87	0.18	0.06	3.81	0.13
State Bank of Patiala	0.27	8.00	0.18	0.11	5.64	0.12	0.10	4.62	0.09
State Bank of Saurastra	0.01	0.86	0.03	—	0.11	0.00	0.01	0.65	0.02
State Bank of Travancore	0.45	4.35	0.18	0.41	2.91	0.13	0.73	4.28	0.17
Allahabad Bank	0.39	22.33	0.38	0.63	31.23	0.45	0.61	31.41	0.38
Andhra Bank	0.18	12.81	0.38	0.08	13.00	0.30	0.05	13.56	0.26
Bank of Baroda	0.35	52.09	0.40	0.30	44.51	0.33	0.21	36.18	0.23
Bank of India	0.25	60.80	0.47	1.70	51.45	0.36	0.12	42.86	0.26
Bank of Maharashtra	0.04	5.20	0.13	0.04	4.82	0.11	0.01	2.55	0.05
Canara Bank	0.84	34.20	0.25	0.90	27.70	0.18	0.38	25.82	0.15
Central Bank of India	0.56	16.90	0.16	0.41	18.70	0.15	0.16	7.15	0.05
Corporation Bank	0.02	1.10	0.04	0.02	2.35	0.05	0.01	2.52	0.04
Dena Bank	0.01	6.14	0.12	0.01	3.79	0.06	0.00	4.03	0.06
Indian Bank	0.24	12.31	0.22	1.79	10.11	0.17	0.08	5.48	0.08
Indian Overseas Bank	0.35	31.50	0.51	0.35	32.50	0.44	—	18.79	0.24
Oriental Bank of Comm.	0.70	12.50	0.22	0.05	9.17	0.11	0.05	6.82	0.07
Punjab National Bank	0.68	50.57	0.32	0.49	41.93	0.23	0.39	40.83	0.19
Punjab and Sind Bank	0.02	17.96	0.54	0.01	14.17	0.34	0.01	11.81	0.28
Syndicate Bank	0.06	12.00	0.22	0.05	15.00	0.20	0.04	9.00	0.10
Union Bank of India	0.16	14.73	0.16	0.15	12.46	0.13	0.11	11.20	0.08
United Bank of India	0.06	4.00	0.10	0.04	2.89	0.06	0.05	3.00	0.05
UCO Bank	0.28	8.14	0.16	0.20	5.00	0.09	0.16	9.00	0.13
Vijaya Bank	0.24	8.18	0.28	0.02	8.25	0.23	0.05	6.57	0.16
Total	10.98	507.97	0.23	10.67	432.82	0.18	5.83	362.50	0.12

World Bank Loan for Water Supply Schemes

571. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States which have been given loan approved by the World Bank for water supply schemes;

(b) whether it is a fact that World Bank has agreed to give Rs. 1600/- crores to Maharashtra for the schemes of water supply with the condition that 10 per cent of money would be collected from consumers; and

(c) if so, whether the Central Government are going to be a guarantor for the above scheme?